

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-80 (canceled)

81. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- (a) a salt form of a drug having low solubility in gastric fluid conditions;
- (b) a precipitation retardant; and
- (c) an optional enhancer;

wherein the composition retards precipitation of the drug for at least 5 minutes in gastric fluid conditions.

82. (new) A process for producing a pharmaceutical composition for delivering a supersaturated concentration of a drug having low aqueous solubility, which process comprises intimately mixing together components (a) (b) and (c) of claim 81.

83. (new) The process according to claim 82, wherein the drug is a sodium salt of valdecoxib.

84. (new) A composition comprising a crystalline alkali metal salt of valdecoxib.

85. (new) The composition of claim 4, wherein said salt is a sodium salt of valdecoxib.

86. (new) The composition of claim 85, wherein said salt is characterized by:

- (a) an endothermic transition at about 154 degrees C;
- (b) a Raman spectrum comprising peaks expressed in terms of cm^{-1} , wherein:
 - (i) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1629, 1445, and 1156 cm^{-1} ;
 - (ii) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1001, 754, and 618 cm^{-1} ;
 - (iii) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1604, 1445, 1156, 1001, and 754 cm^{-1} ; or
 - (iv) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1629, 1516, 1307, 908,

618, and 354 cm^{-1} ; or

(c) a powder X-ray diffraction pattern comprising peaks expressed in terms of 2-theta angles, wherein:

- (i) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 3.73, 16.57 and 20.85 degrees;
- (ii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 7.49, 11.57, and 13.11 degrees;
- (iii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 3.73, 15.43, and 22.45 degrees;
- (iv) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 3.73 and 16.57 degrees;
- (v) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 7.49 and 13.11 degrees;
- (vi) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 16.57 and 20.85 degrees;
- (vii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises a peak at 3.73 degrees;
- (viii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises a peak at 7.49 degrees;
- (ix) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises a peak at 13.11 degrees; or
- (x) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 3.73, 7.49, 11.57, 13.11, 15.43 and 20.85 degrees.

87. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

- (a) a salt of valdecixib;
- (b) a sodium salt of valdecixib;
- (c) a solvate of valdecixib; or
- (d) an isopropanol solvate of valdecixib.

88. (new) The composition of claim 87, wherein said salt is sodium.

89. (new) A method of treating a subject suffering from pain comprising administering to said subject the composition of Claim 87, wherein said composition reduces pain within 30 minutes.

90. (new) The method of Claim 99, wherein the composition is administered to the subject orally.

91. (new) The method of Claim 99, wherein the composition is used in combination with other therapies.

92. (new) The method of Claim 89, wherein the composition is administered to the subject by injection.

93. (new) A composition comprising a solvate of valdecoxib.

94. (new) The composition of claim 93, wherein said solvate is an isopropanol solvate of valdecoxib.

95. (new) The composition of claim 93, wherein said solvate is characterized by:

- (a) an endothermic transition at about 160 degrees C;
- (b) a Raman spectrum comprising peaks expressed in terms of cm^{-1} , wherein:
 - (i) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1635, 1450, and 911 cm^{-1} ;
 - (ii) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1601, 1312, and 1161 cm^{-1} ;
 - (iii) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1601, 1522, 1312, 1161, 1006, 911, and 364 cm^{-1} ; or
 - (iv) said Raman spectrum comprises peaks at 1635, 1450, 1100, 752, 620, and 407 cm^{-1} ; or
- (c) a powder X-ray diffraction pattern comprising peaks expressed in terms of 2-theta angles, wherein:

- (i) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 10.21, 10.95, and 11.89 degrees;
- (ii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 14.07, 17.15, and 21.29 degrees;
- (iii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 9.37, 19.45, and 22.67 degrees;
- (iv) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 10.21 and 11.89 degrees;
- (v) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 14.07 and 17.15 degrees;
- (vi) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 19.45 and 21.29 degrees;
- (vii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises a peak at 10.21 degrees;
- (viii) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises a peak at 19.45 degrees;
- (ix) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises a peak at 21.29 degrees;
- (x) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 9.37, 10.95, 14.07, 17.15, 21.29, and 23.75 degrees; or
- (xi) said X-ray diffraction pattern comprises peaks at 10.21, 11.89, 16.29, 19.45, 22.67, and 26.83 degrees.